A STORY WITHOUT A MORAL

Nothing but the Life Tale of a Common-Place Waif of the Streets.

Patsy Tobin, Who Lived by His Wits from the Cradle-Dramatic Critic of No Mean Ability-His Intentions for the Future.

He was not a Chinaman, nor a Hindoo, nor a Turk. He was perhaps more of a heathen than any of these, but he was a native of this free and enlightened Christian country. He guessed he was born in Boston; mebbe in New York-didn't know. Had lived in both cities, and in Cincinnati, N' Orleans, Chicago, St. Louis, Denver, and a lot o' places. Hadn't ever been to 'Frisco, but was going some day. Liked Ind'nap'lis purty well fer a little town. Had had a father he s'pood, but hadn't ever saw him. His mother had died in New York 'long o' drinkin' too much whisky. He had taken care of himself bout ever since he could remember. Guessed he was twelve years old. Name was Patsy Tobin.

These facts and others relating to his career were drawn out in the course of occasional business interviews. Patsy's profession was that of boot-black, varied by selling papers, holding horses and other odd jobs. He never volunteered information concerning himself, and when questioned answered freely, but with little appearance of interest in the subject. He was a bright boy and had a conglomerate stock of information far removed in character from that acquired by boys reared after conventional and well-regulated family methods. He had never been far from the shadow of churches, where the duty of converting the heathen was preached earnestly: churches where missionary societies met and where enthusiastic workers portrayed the lost condition of the far-off barbarians, and the deeds of the savages on our own fron- pathetic little waifs who figure in good tiers. It might have been supposed children's story-books, appealing by their that l'atsy would have gained a knowledge of what Christianity meant from his nearness to its strongholds, but his views and

God made the world. He lived up in the sky somewhere. The devil lived there, too, in the sun or some other hot place. The devil was most as big a man as God and was always stakin' off some o' God's claims.
Patsy had, perhaps, picked up this last
bit of theology during a brief stay in Lead-

his indifference to the consequences of sin would have distressed orthodox and de-

Of a way to be saved from the devil he had but a vague idea, and, like some who are supposed to know all about the plan of salvation, he cared less. If he didn't behave himself the devil would ketch him he s'posed, but he'd have lots o' company. Some o' these tony fellers 'il be there, you

Just what Patsy considered good be-havior it would be hard to tell. His ianguage, on ordinary occasions, was so in-terspersed with slang and objectionable words as to be quite shocking to sensitive ears. When excitement or anger stirred him, the fluency and vigor of his profanity appalled even hardened sinners. That he had some dim notion of its impropriety had some dim notion of its impropriety was evinced by his occasional cuffing of a companion's ears, and a "Cheese it, Jim; don't shoot off yer mouth so where ladies can year." And, alas, Patsy had no regard for the truth. He could and did lie without hesitation whenever it suited his convenience to do so. He did not look like a boy who would lie. His eyes were blue and bright, and they gazed honestly and openly into the face of the person addressed, even while his lips narrated a most complicated and artistic falsehood.

Patsy, too, was known to steal. His

Patsy, too, was known to steal. His worldly wisdom taught him when it was safe to appropriate small bits of property, and whose belongings it was safe to take. There were were some people careless about such things, he had learned, and others too good-natured to report him to the police.

These guardians of the public welfare were suspicious of Patey. Perhaps they were not entirely unaware of his offenses against entirely unaware of his offenses against honesty, but were willfully oblivious, for even policemen have human sympathies, and do not invariably rejoice in the opportunity to take small boys to jail. At all events, Indianapous policemen never caught Patsy in the act of stealing, and gave him the benefit of their doubts by freedom from arrest, only occasionally showing their authority by ordering him to move on. Having no local habitation, this order sometimes put him to inconvenience. In warm weather he fared well enough. He could sleep in a shed or on a bench in the park, or in many an odd corner, but in the winter it was less easy to obtain comfortable operators. No easy to obtain comfortable quarters. No sooner would he bestow himself in a cozy



dry-goods box or under some sheltered stairway than he was likely to be dragged out and told to "move on." Still he was not entirely without refuge. There was a saloon where, on cold nights and when the bartender was in good humor, he was allowed to sleep under the counter among the empty bottles. If the boss happened to be especially amiable Patsy was allowed on these occasions to regale himself with stale fragments of free lunch, and if he washed these down with dregs from the

Patsy was, in his way, a discriminating

peer-bottles what wonder!

dramatic critic. Few were the theatrical entertainments which he did not attend, sarning admittance in the ingenious ways known to enterprising street boys wherever theaters are found. He held views of his own as to the merits of the actors and their performances. As a matter of choice he doubtless preferred variety and minstrel shows, "Buffalo Bill," "Little Nuggets" and "Dark Secrets." to plays of a higher grade, but he enjoyed tragedy-the more tragic the better he liked it. Mary Anderson stood well in his estimation, but he did not approve of all her roles. Romeo and Juliet he considered 'too spoony-reg'lar chewing-gum story."
He thought highly of Lawrence Barrett as
Richard the Third, but was not pleased with Hamlet. Of the operatic stars, Emma abbott was decidedly his favorite. He reeted her with snatches of "Whoa Emma," and thought her mouth too large, but still he approved of her. He was critical as to the make-up of chorus and ballet, and if any of the beautiful peris in the ranks were not up to his standard of female beauty, he hailed them with derision. At least he did his best to have the criticisms of the gallery known upon the stage where they would do the most good, and was only suppressed by threats of being "fired." It must not be supposed that no interest was taken in Patsy's moral welfare. Every now and then some citizen, moved by a benevolent impulse, would inquire, while getting his boots blacked: "Go to school, bub?"

"But you ought to go to school. It's a bad thing for boys to be on the streets; they get into bad habits, and learn wicked things. You ought to be learning something else. Why don't you go to school?" "Haint got no time, sir. 'F I was to spend my time in school wher'd the eats

The benevolent citizen was never able to answer this question, nor was he ever so moved by Patey's urgent need of an education that he offered to provide the "eats." He felt so pleased at his magnanimous interest in the boy that the gravity of the situation really made no impression on him, and the comfortable warmth of selfapproval under his vest as he moved off would probably not have been heightened

by the exercise of actual charity. Well-meant, honest attempts were made at different times to lead Patsy into more civilized ways, but they were spasmodic efforts. Good women who became eloquent

lands soon grew discouraged in home practice. They forgot that a heathen is not converted in a day, and when, after two or three weeks, Patsy was the same incorrigible, untrustworthy little scamp as at first, they turned their attention to more promising fields. Said one of these excellent matrohs with an air of virtuous in-

"Of course, I can't take a child like that into my home with my Tommy and Willy. My sons are now perfectly truthful and honest, and I don't want them to know how bad boys behave, much less to associ-ate with them."

It was not meant that Patsy should hear this remark, but he did, and as the lady turned the corner Patsy turned a hand-spring and remarked as he landed on his feet: "Ho! I know them Tommy and Willy kids. Played craps with 'em last Sunday behind the church up yer and won their two twenty-five centses. When I asked 'em wot they'd tell their ma if she found out they didn't go to Sunday-school and put in their money they said they'd tell berthey'd been to see little sick Jimmy Murphy and took him some Easter flowers."
Patsy knew how to read. How he had learned he could hardly have told, but, led by an instinct of self-preservation or the



exigencies of business, he had picked up enough literary knowledge to serve his own limited needs and to spell out the blood-and-thunder stories in the Boys' Own Weekly and the ghastly crimes portrayed in terrible detail in Police Gazettes

and Cincinnati Enquirers.

It is not to be supposed for a moment that Patsy lamented his lack of family ties. He was not one of those large-eyed, for protection. On the contrary, he enjoyed his freedom, and would have chafed under restraint. He was self-reliant and full of resources, and never having had sheltering care did not consciously suffer from its lack.
There were emergencies, though, when he would perhaps have been glad of a "dad" who would supply his wants. These were apt to arise in cold winters, when the need of warm garments became urgent. How he managed to provide himself with clothing on any occasion was a matter never made quite clear, his small earnings, improvident habits and propensity to play "craps" leaving him no margin for investments with the tailor. His friend, the salcon-keeper, occasionally gave him a coat or a pair of trousers cast off by his own rapidly-growing son, but this was an uncertain source of supplies. There was some reason to suspect that Patsy did not rely upon gifts. There was one winter, for instance, when sundry garments mysteriously disappeared There was one winter, for instance, when sundry garments mysteriously disappeared from a certain public school cloak-room, and that winter Paisy was quite comfortable in a long overcoat and a cap that pulled over his ears. It was in the matter of shoes that he had the most trouble, and it was shoes that finally ended his sojourn in Indianapolis. Cold weather had come on suddenly; snow had fallen and Patsy had no shoes. Something must be done and that at once thing must be done and that at once. Watching his opportunity Patsy "sneaked" two shoes-they were not mates-from a basket in front of a cheap store. For once his luck or his usual dexterity deserted him. Although he vanished in the crowd the wary proprietor "spotted" him and presently, in company with an officer, pur-sued and found him with the shoes on and already disguised with mud. Proof of guilt was too plain; the shoe man was relentless and nothing was left but for Patsy to go to the station-house to await appearance before the Police Court next morning. Next morning Patsy was not to be found. There was a burst of indignation from the prosecuting witness, a reprimand from the court to everybody whose carelessness had aided in the escape of the prisoner, and that was the end of it. Patsy was seen in Indianapolis no more, and he took the shoes

with him. All the incidents of this uneventful chronicle happened several years ago. It is a commonplace tale and hardly worth the teiling even with the sequel added. For there is a sequel. Boys like Patsy sometimes grow up into reputable and honorable citizens. In story-books this miracle is frequently performed. In real life the development is apt to be in direct line with the youthful habits and environ-

An ex-policeman of this place, wander-ing about in quarters of most interest to him in New York city recently found his old acquaintance. Patsy Tobin, in a sixteen millions of people. Of course the criminal dock on trial for burglary and arson. A house had been robbed and set bulk of these will be slight and wholly inon fire and suspicion pointed to Patsy as one of the guilty persons. He was con-victed and sentenced to five years of im-

"He looked tough, the young feller did."
said the man describing the visit afterward. "Hard face. Told me he had beat his way to New York time he left here and had been there ever since. Had worked in saloons and done odd jobs for a while and lately had joined a society. Society of house-breakers and sand-baggers I found ont, but he said that wasn't the right idea. 'We mean to have an even divide of property,' says he. 'Taint right for one to have nothing, like me.' savs Patsy. . 'In our society we swear to see that this divide is made and will do it if it takes blood. There's only a beginning yet, but a lot of us are in it and the rich duffers can't roost looked mighty vicious then, lemme tell you, and if one o' them millionaires had saw that look he'd a' felt sorry Patsy hadn't been sentenced for life. One o' these bloody Anarchists or Socialists he's turned out, you see. Not that it's any wonder, a feller brought up as he was in the streets and kicked and cuffed by everybody from the time he's a baby. They're all better off in jail, that kind, and most of 'em get there first or last; but the trouble is they can't be kept there constant, and they're

cusseder when they get out. A commonplace story, you see, the whole of it. Nothing poetic, or picturesque, or attractive about it; nothing but an everyday account of an uninteresting human waif-one of many. And what of it all? Nothing. The churches point their spires towards heaven. We pray comfortably within for the souls of the perishing. If the heathen at our doors do not see fit to enter in to the vestibule what of it! Some day they will come and tell us, perhaps, in a way we shall understand.

LOCAL NEWS NOTES.

J. W. Locke, D. D., formerly professor of mathematics in DePauw University, will preach in Seventh-street M. E. Church this The Misses Smith and Williamson wil give an elecutionary and musical enter-

tainment at Pfatilin's Hall, Monday evening, assisted by some of the artists of the At Blackford-street M. E. Church the Rev. T. P. Walter will deliver a sermon to young men. The appalling moral state of

American young men will be especially em-Rev. J. H. O. Smith, of Valparaiso, exchanges with the pastor of the Central Christian Church, and will fill the pulpit there to-day, while the pastor is at Valpa-

The St. Cecilia Society will produce the military drama, "Enlisted for the War." on Tuesday evening next, for the benefit of the Sacred Heart Church. The entertain-

ment will occur at Mannerchor Hall. A song service of unusual attractiveness will be given at the Mayflower Congregational Church this evening under the direction of F. B. Fowler, director of the choir. Miss Harriet E. Paige, of Terre 2,802; against 5,476. To effect such a change Haute, will assist the choir. Miss Paige is as this, not only must the ministers be fasuperintendent of music in the Terre Haute vorable, but they must assent to it by s | which she terms "her American Treasure." talking missionary work in foreign | First Congregational Church.

A GREAT METHODIST YEAR

dist Episcopal General Conference.

The Most Important Assemblage Known to the Denomination-Some of the Leading Questions to Be Considered at Omaha.

It so happens that presidential year is always a great Methodist year, and that just before the meeting of the political conventions there is held in one of the large cities what is known as the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church. The last assembly of this kind was held in New York in 1888, and now, the requisite four years having elapsed, we are upon the eve of another such conclave, the favored locality this time being Omaha. It will convene on the 2d of May, and so great will be the amount of work before it, that a final adjournment will be reached only when May itself adjourns, and even then, judging from the past, it will not be ready to adjourn. Out of the thousand or more propositions submitted to the last conference, deliberate action was taken upon about a hundred; the remainder, when the final doxology was sung, were either on the table or under it, and in that unsettled situation have they been compelled to remain-for the good of the church probably-while another quadrennium has gone by.

This conference, which meets only in presidential years, is, in some respects, the most important gathering in which Methodists ever convene. From the stand-point of sentiment it must, perhaps, yield the palm to the Ecumenical Conference, which met in Washington in October last, and in London ten years before. But, judging by the power inhering in the two bodies, and by what they can do along practi-cal lines, the first place must unquestionably be given to the body which convenes next week in Omaha. The last named body, it is true, does not represent the Methodism of the world, but it does represent the most extensive branch of Methodism. Besides, it has many great offices to fill, while the Ecumenical had in its gift-beyond the few honors bestowed during its brief session-neither dignity nor emolument.

A BIG CLASS-MEETING. In one respect the Ecumenical was only a big Methodist class-meeting. The brethren were called together merely for the exchange of views and the cultivation of good feelings. They could talk ad libitum, and they did this, it must be admitted, in excellent spirit, with signal ability and with uptiring perseverance. We may reasonably expect, too, that there will be no end of speech-making at Omaha. Informer sessions of the same conference it has been nothing unusual for thirty or forty to clamor for the privileges of the floor at the same time, while the spectacle of any measure appealing in vain for some one to throw light upon it is a wholly unheard-of occurrence in that body. But the General differs from the Ecumenical Conference in the fact that besides being endowed with the gift of utterance, it likewise possesses

quadrennial conclave is not only superior to the Ecumenical Conference, but it far From this body must emanate all changes in polity, and all modifications of the Discipline. In fact, with a few reservations—instances in which the acts of the General Conference are rendered legal only by the concurrent action of the annual conferences—the body which holds its approaching session at Omaha has entire control ecclesiastically, not only of all the ministers of this branch of Methodism, but of all the members, of even those exceedingly privileged characters, the bishops; and, what is perhaps still more important to practical minds, of all the wast property interests and all the exthe vast property interests and all the ex-

PROVING IT BY FIGURES. To appreciate fully what this means we must dip into figures a little. The Methodists of this continent number a little less than five and a half millions. The enrolled communicants number that many, or nearly so, and if for each member we allow the addition of two adherents who are not members, we see at once that this prospective gathering at Omaha will affect in some measure a direct. But over more than two-tifths of this great constituency its control will be at once direct and supreme.

prisonment, some lenience being shown on account of the offender's youth. Before the trial ended the ex-policeman visited Patsy in the jail for old acquaintence nominations into which Methodism is di-

A BODY OF PICKED MEN. This conference is a delegated body. It consists of picked men from both the clergy and laity. The fifteen thousand ministers of the M. E. Church are divided into one hundred and thirty-one annual conferences, and every four years each of these makes its selection, generally by ballot, of the men who are to represent it in the quadrennial conference. The ratio is one delegate for every forty-five ministers and one for every fraction of twothirds of that number. A conference which is large enough to send two or more ministerial delegates sends also two lay delegates. These are not elected by the ministers, but by laymen, who meet in a conference by themselves for that express purpose. Some of the annual conferences are so large that they send as many as six ministerial delegates, but the laymen are allowed not more than two, and where but a single minister is sent, only one. This gives to the laity a representation in the law-making body of only about onethird. In the last General Conference the figures were: Ministers, 281; laymen, 175. The elections to the coming assembly are not yet complete. The full returns, however, will show a similar disproportion. though there will be a slight increase in the totals.

Naturally, the laymen are dissatisfied with this state of things. Paying the bills of the church, they feel that they ought to have more influence in making the laws and filling the offices. But the ministers think differently. Required to vote not long ago upon the proposition, whether laymen should be allowed equal representation in the General Conference with themselves, they met the issue by an emphatic negative. The vote in favor of equality was

The Quadrennial Meeting of the Metho-

an enormous power of legislation.

From this point of view the approaching outranks the annual conferences. The latter are merely executive and administrative bodies. They have no power to enact laws; the whole of this inheres in the conference which meets every fourth year. From this body must emanate all changes

vided-will be represented in this conference only in a fraternal sense. It will sen greetings by honored delegates, and will no doubt be deeply interested in whatever the conference may do. Possibiv. too, its policy and feelings may be modified to some extent by the spirit of brotherhood the gathering may exhibit. This will surely be the case should favorable action be taken upon the memorials to be submitted looking toward organic union of the two bodies. Still this is not the conference of feller to have a million and another feller | the Church South, but the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and its decisions, therefore, can only affect in any binding sense the members of that church. When it is remembered, however, that there are nearly two million and a half of these-not counting adherents-and that this church, in the aggregate both of its benevolences and membership, is far in the lead of all other Methodist churches, it will be readily seen that in speaking of its quadrennial conference as one of the greatest conclaves in which Methodists ever convene, we have kept quite within the truth, and that we have not at all overestimated either its direct influence or the power it must exert indirectly-being the governing body of the largest amongst them-over the Methodist churches in general.

Ex-Governor Porter and the great actress, Sarah Bernhardt, departed for Europe yesterday on the French steamer La Bretagne. The minister to Italy was agreeably surprised to learn that Sarah had left a special order with the steward of the boat to procure for her two dozen bottles of the delicious Budweiser beer, brewed by the Anneuser-Busch Brewing Association,

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ord during the present quadrennium by a majority of almost three-fourths on the opposite side.

THE WOMAN QUESTION. Another proposition which the ministers in their annual conferences have failed to indorse is that which looked towas the admission of women into this governing body. It was virtually decided by the last General Conference that the question of woman's eligibility was a constitutional one, and that the movement to admit her must go through the regular constitutional course. This required, as in the other case cited, a three-fourths majority of the ministers voting in the annual conferences, and a two-thirds majority of the delegates to the General Conference. How the body last named will vote remains to be seen, but the proposition is already defeated for the present. It has secured a majority but no a sufficiently large majority to make it a law, the vote being, 5,602 in favor of admission, and 5,151 against it. The vote of the laity on this suject—which counts, however, only as an expression of opinion—was: For, 235,668; against, 163,843. Both of these questions will engage the attention of the brethren at the conference about to convene. So far as legislation is concerned, they will be the most interes ing topics that body will consider. It is not possible that the laymen will be any better satisfied with a minority representation than they were four years ago: nor is it conceivable that "woman, lovely woman," will rest content under her ban of exclusion. At the last General Conference the woman question was under debate for about six days. It was a hard nut to crack, and the orators on both sides brought all their strength to bear in the effort to extract a satisfactory kernel. After all, however, the question is still unsettled, and it is not in the least unlikely that we shall hear over again in the com-

last, and shall witness also, in the effort to have women seated on an equal footing with men, the same scenes of ever-memorable excitement. DEMANDS OF THE LAYMEN. As to the admission in larger numbers of the laymen, this is opposed strenuously by many of the ministers, not so much because they object to the principle involved. as from the fact—to state the case broadly -that they are human, and do not, therefore, like the idea of taking the bread out of their own mouths. To send lay delegates to General Conference in equal proportion with the clergy would mean that finally a smaller number of the clergy could enjoy this honor; for to make the conference two-thirds larger than it is, or even one-third larger, with the two orders tinuing through a whole month, is a prospect not to be thought of for a moment. Possibly a solution may be reached by providing that the laity and clergy shall deliberate separately in different buildings. Meanwhile, it is proposed to relieve the situation at the gathering about to convene by seating the two orders on opposito sides of the house. Heretofore, the laity and ministry have been mixed up, and

ing conference the same arguments pro

and con which were threshed out in the

the point has well been made that such an arrangement tends to keep the laymen in the background; that they not only cannot muster as many votes as the clergy, but that, as the case stands, they have eration being only \$22,491. less chance than their more numerous and The Charles E. Coffin agency perfected a more valuable brethren to secure the privileges of the floor. What will be done in this matter we shall know shortly. But it goes without the saying that having to adjust so many matters of delicacy, with the woman question still on its hands and the struggle for equal rights between ciergy and laity clamoring for settlement-to say nothing of the many high officials it will have to elect, and the many changes of Discipline it will be asked to make-this conference will have plenty to do, and will attract to itself a large share of public at-

A Minister and an Actress,

fifteen in number, who have bought lots in Morton Place and will build houses on them. Among the members are F. C.

BUSINESS BUILDING SOLD

Iron Block Purchased from Mr. H. P. Wasson by Yandes and Hubbard.

Other Notable Sales Made During the Past Week-General Real Estate Market-Eight Per Cent. Building Stock.

Among the level-headed real-estate men

the impression is generally prevalent that the further platting of far-outside additions should be discouraged, as Indianapolis already has a sufficient number of lots awaiting purchase and improvement by home-builders. Inside property is in fairly good demand, and the prices asked and received are considered exceedingly reasonable by those best qualified to judge of real-estate values. The transfers for the week aggregate a good figure, though comties. On Saturday last there were twentyfive transfers, with a total consideration of \$280,147.55, the largest transfers being those of Margaret E. Dunlap and others to James E. Roberts, part of lot 10, in square 55 (Bee Hive corner), \$75,000; Jacob F. Heim to Otto Steehhan, part of lot 1, in square 63, \$41,000, corner of Alabama and Washington streets; Horace R. Allen to the Eli Lilly Company, the property at the northwest corner of Delaware and Seventh streets, \$18,000; Susan McKernan and others to Charles Scholl, the corner at the point of Indiana avenue and New York streets, \$19,000. On Monday there were forty transfers, with a total consideration of \$153,285. The largest of these were the conveyance of Francis M. Churchman and others to the Premier steel-works of the rolling-mill property \$65,000; that of the Eli Lilly Company to Horace R. Allen of the property at the northwest corner of Ohio and Tennessee streets, the site of the new Surgical Institute, \$40,000. On Tuesday the transfers numbered twenty-one; total consideration, \$31,426, the largest being the conveyance of Henry C. Long to Henry Eitel of part of the west half of the northwest quarter section 24. \$14,000. On Wednesday the transfers numbered twenty-two; consideration \$32,765.50, the largest being the conveyance of A. L. Roache to Henry Schurmann of part of lot 7, in Roache's second addition. On Thursday there were sitting together, and with the sessions con- sixteen transfers, with a total consideration of \$70,652. The largest of these were the conveyance by John H. Vajen to George W. Stout of seventy-five acres on Indiana avenue, north of Fall creek, and adjoining the water-works property, for \$36,500. Mr. Stout also bought an adjacent piece of Edward Schurmann for \$9,000. It is understood that these properties are to be platted for city lots. The transfer of the Beaty property northwest corner of New Jersey and Michigan streets, to Emory Pantzer, \$14,500, was also recorded. On Friday the conveyances were fourteen in number, the total consid-

> good-sized deal yesterday in the sale by H P. Wasson to Simon Yandes and Wm. S. Hubbard of the Iron Block, Nos. 9 and 11 West Washington street, consideration

> \$98,000. This property was bought by Mr. Wasson soon after the memorable fire of March 17, 1890, but he found it too small for his dry-goods business. Later on Henry Severin and Silas T. Bowen erected a building on the site of those destroyed that suited his purpose, and he had no further need for the building he has dis-The "Morton Place colony" is the latest thing in settling up a new addition with neighbors who will be to one's liking. This is a syndicate of young married men,

> Darlington, Hervey Bates, jr., Geo. C. Hitt, Will J. Brown, Robert Martindale and

Charles Martindale. Thus far over fifty

lots have been sold in Morton Place. There

bakeries, drug stores and saloons being Tenth street on the south and Fourteenth street on the north. A similar syndicate is forming for Lincoln Park.

Eight Per Cent. Association Stock. The 8 per cent. stock question is being discussed with much vigor among building association men just now. One of them them writes to the Journal as follows: "An attorney recently gave you some advice that a certain association here, in the city, issued guaranteed dividend stock, which is illegal, as it was preferring a class of stockholders, and advised that investors take paid-up stock in associations like his, which pay 8 per cent. interest on large sums lett with them, and that they issue therefore paid-up stock, which, he says, is authorized by statute. This 8 per cent. interest, which they bind themselves to pay, is paid annually. The article was a cap-

tions one, and recklessly charged illegality against the officers of the attacked association, and would pass unnoticed but for "If the statute authorizes paid-up stock and the creation of a stockholder of that description, it certainly must be in an unpublished volume in the exclusive control of the attorney. The statute does not authorize the paid-up stock. Paid-up stock is issued legally, but not by authority of sociation issues is not stock in law. The party holding it has nothing more than a certificate of indebtedness against the association. An association has the power to borrow money for corporate purposes. and power to assign its mortgages as collateral security. This has been expressly decided, and is admitted by the attorney. An English case goes still further and holds that a lender can follow up the money in the mortgages and hold a claim against them. The association the attorney cites issues certificates of stock which are merely, in legal effect, certificates of indebtedness, just as his paid-up certificates are, and then it guarantees, just as he agrees to pay, 8 per cent. interestlawful interest-on these certificates, and it secures the repayment of the money borrowed thus, by an assignment of mortgages in trust. The association goes absolutely upon the theory that it is borrowing money, and only borrows it when it needs to loan to members, and then reserves the privilege of retiring it, when it has idle money on band. What is the substantial difference between this transaction and going into bank and borrowing \$5,000 to meet demands of borrowing members, paying 8 per cent, interest, and leaving mortgages as collateral security? The fact is that this attorney is borrowing money and does not know it, just as the association he cites is doing, but it does know it. But take this captious critic on his own theory, and he says, in effect. that his association issues untaxable paid-up stock on which it agrees to pay 8 per cent, interest. The statute does not make the holder of a stock certificate a stockholder, and there is no way in law to make a person a stockholder, unless it is provided for in law, but admitting that he is a shareholder, this attorney says his association agrees to pay him 8 per cent. in-terest. Is this not giving one class of shareholders a preference over another! If his mistit law applies it covers that transaction as well, and he is guilty of an illegailty, as he characterizes it very properly, because preferential stockholders are foreign to the building-association scheme; yet, upon his theory, his association is preferring a class or .its stockholders because the profits may not equal 8 per cent., and the association has bound itself, legally, to pay 8 per cent, interest. But this misinformed attorney does not understand his own situation, evidently. His paid-up stockholders are not stockholders, and yet they are lawful creditors, and the assets of the association

are pledged in law to the payment of every "So that while he has misapplied his law he has done no harm, because the people he has advised to go in his association and take paid-up stock will get their money, as the association has the power to contract a debt. Take this 'attorney' by his statement and he says his association issues non-taxable paid up stock. In view of the fact that he is searching for illegalities, it would be well for him it for even a gown. to explain to his directors why

to pay a certain rate of interest. It is a clear case of a loan, and the Attorney-general has advised the assessors of the various counties to place upon the tax duplicates all building association stock, called paid-up stock, where the association agrees to pay a certain rate of interest. The assessor probably has not reached this attorney's association, but since he so loudly advertises that it is non-taxable in view of the law, it would be well for him to begin his work of unearthing illegalities at home and explain to the directors upon what theory he is really proceeding."

Immigrants Were Grateful. Mrs. Buchanan, police matron, yesterday received a letter from George Walter, one of the Russian Lutheran immigrants who were recently crowded together, penniless and weary, in the police station. The writer said three of their number had reached friends in Nebraska, but the others had found employment with farmers surrounding Chicago. He himself was situated near Freeport. The letter, which showed more than ordinary education, was full of expressions of gratitude for the help extended them here.

A double frame house at Nos. 501 and 503 South New Jersey street caught fire yesters day noon owing to a defective flue. The statute, and, in fact, stock such as his as- loss was \$400, covered by insurance. Mrs. Harry Lovett owned the dwellings, and Robert Marcin and Edward Jones were the occupants. Open-Air Concert.

The first open-air concert of the season

was given by the When clothing store last

night. Professor Beissenberz's band occu-

Small Blaze at Noun.

pied the balcony over the street and attracted large crowds, who were entertained for an hour without price.

Kissing at the Czar's Court. Nowhere is Easter celebrated with more pomp and ceremony than at the court of

Russia. It is regarded as the principal festival of the year. On Saturday evening, after 11 o'clock, the imperial family, the dignitaries of the realm and the members of the court assemble in the chapel, the men in unitorm, the women in full court dress, resplendent

with jewels. At the last stroke of 12 the archbishop, or Metropolitan, pronounces the words, "Christos voskress" (Christ is risen), three times in slow, sonorous tones, and then a sort of kissing match begins, in which all present from the autocrat down to the west member of his bousehold, take part, The Czar kisses the cheeks of his courtiers and they in return kiss his Majesty's shoulder, as being a little less familiar salute. Everybody kisses the hand of the Czarina, and she kisses her relatives and friends on the cheek in return; and then every man, woman, priest and child present kiss one another, exclaiming between

the smacks, "Christ is risen!" "He is risen

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When the old gentleman saw her coming into the office he smiled, for she was petite, and plump, and fair to the eye. "Is this Mr. Harry Heartley's father?" she inquired, addressing him. "It is, miss," responded the old gent, rising and offering her a chair with a bow. Then I came to see you, sir, about your son," she said simply. "My son?" and the father looked dis-

Yes, sir; your son Harry. It is concern-

'What," glowered the father, "has that

ing a matter in which I am personally in-

young rascal been-" A Modiste Explanation.

Kate Fie'd's Washington Mrs. Bedford-Chord-I see that after making me a gown and a tea jacket of that silk you had enough left to make curtains for your walting-room window, Madame Longbill. I won't complain if you will tell me why Madame Cutwell retused to touch that siik and said there was not enough of

Madame Longbill (calmly) - Probably he advertises that his paid-up stock is non- | Madame Cutwell's waiting-room has two